

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

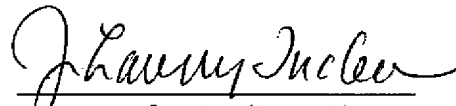
Applicants appreciate the allowance of Claims 26-28 and the indication of allowability of several other claims.

Claims 1 and 24 have been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of cancelled Claim 8. Claims 10, 12, 14, and 17 have been amended to change their dependency. Claim 13 has been made into an independent claim by adding the subject matter of previous Claim 1. Applicants believe that these amendments incorporate allowable subject matter into all remaining claims.

While the Office Action presents new rejections under Sections 102(b) and 103(a) over the cited art, and Applicants respectfully traverse those rejections, the noted amendments overcome all rejections and Applicants will not waste the Examiner's time with further arguments.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested. A prompt and favorable action by the examiner is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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